

REMARKS/ARGUMENTS

Claims 1-40 are pending in the present application. By the present action, claims 1, 4, 6-8, 10, 13, 15-17, 20, 23, 25-27, 29, 32, 34-36 and 39-40 were amended. Reconsideration of the claims is respectfully requested.

I. Telephone Interview

The Examiner is thanked for reviewing the present claim amendments and for his comments, especially since he was under no obligation to provide a second interview. It is understood from the brief discussion that the enclosed amendments should overcome the currently stated rejection.

II. 35 U.S.C. § 101: Claims 1-19

Claims 1-19 stand rejected under 35 U.S.C. § 101 as being directed towards non-statutory subject matter, with the rejection noting "*Claim 1 does not clearly defines what operations are performed and what is an output of these operations. As a result the claim 1 as understood is directed simply to receiving and sending instructions*". This rejection is respectfully traversed.

Claim 1 has been amended to recite "*wherein said translated instruction is performed at said given user registry to modify access to said given user registry*". This feature is believed to obviate the rejection under 101.

III. 35 U.S.C. § 112, Second Paragraph: Claims 10-19

Claims 10-19 stand rejected under 35 U.S.C. § 112, second paragraph, as being indefinite for failing to particularly point out and distinctly claim the subject matter, which applicants regard as the invention, with the rejection noting, "Claim 10 recites "forwarding to" but it is not clear what "is forwarded to said first registry". This rejection is respectfully traversed.

Claim 10 has been amended to recite, "*forwarding said first registry dependent instruction to said first registry*". This amendment is believed to obviate the rejection under 112(2). Therefore the rejection of claims 10-19 under 35 U.S.C. § 112, second paragraph has been overcome.

IV. 35 U.S.C. § 103, Obviousness: Claims 1, 6-10, 15-20, 25-29, and 34-40

Claims 1, 6-10, 15-20, 25-29, and 34-40 stand rejected under 35 U.S.C. § 103(a) as being unpatentable over Hadfield et al., "Windows NT Server 4 Security Handbook"; 1997, ISBN: 078971213 (hereinafter "Hadfield") in view of Regnier et al., Client/Server Computer System Having Personalizable

And Securable Views Of Database Data, U.S. Patent No. 6,134,549, October 17, 2000 (hereinafter "Regnier"). This rejection is respectfully traversed.

The Office Action states:

13. As per claim 1 *Hadfield* teach a Windows NT environment (system) that comprises Windows NT servers (pg. 146). *Hadfield et al.* teach an authentication process that "uses the SAM database as the container for all account security information". *Hadfield et al.* provides an example where "part A accepts user log-on information and Part B compares the log-on information to the SAM database information" (*Hadfield et al.*, pg. 169, "The authentication process")

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It is noted that the claims have been amended to more clearly recite an embodiment of the invention. These amendments are supported by the specification on page 14, line 15 through page 15, line 2. Claim 1, as amended, recites:

1. A method for accessing a user registry, comprising:
configuring a plurality of user registries in a given computer system to each receive instructions through a respective adapter and to each provide access to a respective system resource, wherein said plurality of user registries use different respective authentication mechanisms and wherein each said respective adapter is configured to receive instructions in a common format; and
sending a registry-independent instruction to perform an operation on a given user registry of said plurality of user registries, wherein, responsive to receiving said registry-independent instruction, a respective adapter translates said instruction from said common format to a format usable with said given user registry to create a translated instruction, and forwards said translated instruction to said given user registry, wherein said translated instruction is performed at said given user registry to modify access to said given user registry.

This claim recites a plurality of user registries that are using different authentication mechanisms, but each of which are sent instructions, through their respective adapters, in a common format. This capability allows an administrative program to interact with multiple registries without special programming and allows new registries to be added through the addition of an appropriate adapter for the new registry. Neither *Hadfield* nor *Regnier* nor any combination of these references show or suggest this capability.

Additionally, claims 10, 20, 29, 39, and 40 are rejected for reasons similar to claim 1 and are allowable for the same reasons. Further, the remaining claims in this rejection are dependent on one of claims 1, 10, 20, 29, 39, and 40 and inherit the allowability of their independent claims.

Therefore, the rejection of claims 1, 6-10, 15-20, 25-29, and 34-40 under 35 U.S.C. § 103(a) has been overcome.

V. 35 U.S.C. § 103, Obviousness: Claims 2-5, 11-14, 21-24, and 30-33

Claims 2-5, 11-14, 21-24, and 30-33 stand rejected under 35 U.S.C. § 103(a) as being unpatentable over *Hadfield* in view of *Regnier* and *Murray et al.*, "Windows programming, an Introduction", 1990, ISBN: 00788 75363 (hereinafter "*Murray*"). This rejection is respectfully traversed.

The Office Action states:

30. *Hadfield et al.* teach the system that includes Windows NT server running Windows NT operating system as discussed above. Also, *Hadfield et al.* discloses that Windows NT is an object oriented system (*Hadfield et al.*, pg. 67, *The Object Manager*).

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The claims in the current rejection are all dependent on one of the claims discussed in the first 103 rejection and the arguments set for there are equally valid for this rejection. Specifically, *Hadfield* and *Regnier* do not disclose or suggest a plurality of user registries that are using different authentication mechanisms, but each of which are sent instructions, through their respective adapters, in a common format. While *Murray* has not been relied on to show this feature, *Murray* also does not show these capabilities. Therefore, this rejection is overcome.

Therefore, the rejection of claims 2-5, 11-14, 21-24, and 30-33 under 35 U.S.C. § 103(a) has been overcome.

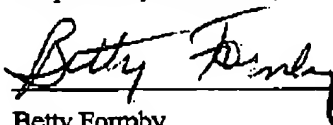
VI. Conclusion

It is respectfully urged that the subject application is patentable over *Hadfield*, *Regnier*, and *Murray* and is now in condition for allowance.

The examiner is invited to call the undersigned at the below-listed telephone number if in the opinion of the examiner such a telephone conference would expedite or aid the prosecution and examination of this application.

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Respectfully submitted,



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